

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 2. This sheet, which includes Fig. 2, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 2. In Fig. 2, previously omitted elements N31 and N32 have been added.

Support for the requested changes may be found, for example, in paragraph [0030] of the specification and in the claims as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

The outstanding Office action begins with objections to the drawings. The applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments overcome such objections and therefore requests withdrawal of the same. In particular, an NMOS transistor N31 has been added to Fig. 2 to show an example of an NMOS transistor for keeping the potential of an input terminal of the first driving means to be the ground potential, according to the control signal, as recited in claim 9. An NMOS transistor N32 has also been added to Fig. 2 to show an example of an NMOS transistor for keeping the potential of the input terminal of the second driving means to be the ground potential, according to the control signal, as recited in claim 10.

The applicant respectfully submits that the drawings show an example of a circuit including a second driving means for outputting the potential of the second external power or the ground potential to a second node, according to the control signal and an output signal of the second input means, as recited in claim 4. In particular, claim 8 recites that the second input means of claim 4 may include a level shifter for outputting the potential of the second external power or the ground potential according to the output signal of the second input means, and an inverter for inverting the output signal of the level shifter to output the potential of the second external power or the ground potential. Fig. 2 shows an example of a level shifter 24 and an inverter I27. As a result, the applicant submits that the drawings show every feature of the invention specified in the claims, including claim 4.

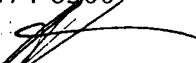
Turning to the claim objections, the Office action objected to claims 1-14 for various informalities. Claims 1 and 4-14 have been amended to correct the informalities as indicated in the Office action. Further, claim 1 has been amended at line 9 to correct for a typographical error.

The Office action indicated that claims 1-14 would be allowed if amended to overcome the informalities, and if the objections to the drawings were overcome. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-14 are in condition for allowance. In light of the foregoing, the prompt issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the examiner have any questions, the examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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